

Message

---

**From:** Breslin, John [breslin.john@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 11/6/2020 3:59:07 PM  
**To:** Sanders, Amy [Sanders.Amy@epa.gov]; Nelson, Leverett [nelson.leverett@epa.gov]; Johnson, Gaila [johnson.gaila@epa.gov]; Newton, Cheryl [Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Arrazola, Ignacio [arrazola.ignacio@epa.gov]; Smith, Debra [smith.debra@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

## Ex. 5 AC/AWP/DP

John Breslin  
Associate Regional Counsel  
Labor & Employment Law  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
77 W. Jackson Blvd., C-14J  
312-886-7165  
312-697-2059 (fax)

This communication, along with any documents, files or attachments, is intended only for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain legally privileged and confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any reading, opening, printing, saving, dissemination, distribution or copying of this message or any attachment to it is prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender by a separate email message at the address above and destroy the original message and its attachments.

---

**From:** Sanders, Amy <Sanders.Amy@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 06, 2020 9:44 AM  
**To:** Nelson, Leverett <nelson.leverett@epa.gov>; Johnson, Gaila <johnson.gaila@epa.gov>; Newton, Cheryl <Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Arrazola, Ignacio <arrazola.ignacio@epa.gov>; Breslin, John <breslin.john@epa.gov>; Smith, Debra <smith.debra@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

Ex. 5 AC/AWP/DP

---

**From:** Nelson, Leverett <nelson.leverett@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 6, 2020 9:33 AM  
**To:** Sanders, Amy <Sanders.Amy@epa.gov>; Johnson, Gaila <johnson.gaila@epa.gov>; Newton, Cheryl <Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Arrazola, Ignacio <arrazola.ignacio@epa.gov>; Breslin, John <breslin.john@epa.gov>; Smith, Debra <smith.debra@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

Ex. 5 AC/AWP/DP

---

**From:** Sanders, Amy <[Sanders.Amy@epa.gov](mailto:Sanders.Amy@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 06, 2020 9:24 AM  
**To:** Johnson, Gaila <[johnson.gaila@epa.gov](mailto:johnson.gaila@epa.gov)>; Newton, Cheryl <[Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov](mailto:Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov)>; Nelson, Leverett <[nelson.leverett@epa.gov](mailto:nelson.leverett@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

**Ex. 5 AC/AWP/DP**

---

**From:** Sanders, Amy  
**Sent:** Friday, November 6, 2020 9:23 AM  
**To:** Newton, Cheryl <[Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov](mailto:Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov)>; Johnson, Gaila <[johnson.gaila@epa.gov](mailto:johnson.gaila@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

# Ex. 5 AC/AWP/DP

---

**From:** Thiede, Kurt <[thiede.kurt@epa.gov](mailto:thiede.kurt@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 6, 2020 8:52 AM  
**To:** Newton, Cheryl <[Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov](mailto:Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov)>; Sanders, Amy <[Sanders.Amy@epa.gov](mailto:Sanders.Amy@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Liebau, Joseph <[Liebau.Joseph@epa.gov](mailto:Liebau.Joseph@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

I'd like to respond to #2 with amplifying our efforts on diversity and inclusion. Can you have Gaila work on that?

---

**From:** Block, Molly <[block.molly@epa.gov](mailto:block.molly@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 6, 2020 8:46 AM  
**To:** Rowan, Anne <[rowan.anne@epa.gov](mailto:rowan.anne@epa.gov)>; Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>; regionalpress <[regionalpress@epa.gov](mailto:regionalpress@epa.gov)>; Alfaro, Daniel <[Alfaro.Daniel@epa.gov](mailto:Alfaro.Daniel@epa.gov)>; Kelley, Jeff <[kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Thiede, Kurt <[thiede.kurt@epa.gov](mailto:thiede.kurt@epa.gov)>; Liebau, Joseph <[Liebau.Joseph@epa.gov](mailto:Liebau.Joseph@epa.gov)>; Newton, Cheryl <[Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov](mailto:Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov)>; Sanders, Amy <[Sanders.Amy@epa.gov](mailto:Sanders.Amy@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

Ex. 5 AC/AWP/DP

---

**From:** Rowan, Anne <[rowan.anne@epa.gov](mailto:rowan.anne@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, November 5, 2020 9:00 PM

**To:** Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>; regionalpress <[regionalpress@epa.gov](mailto:regionalpress@epa.gov)>; Alfaro, Daniel <[Alfaro.Daniel@epa.gov](mailto:Alfaro.Daniel@epa.gov)>; Kelley, Jeff <[kelley.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:kelley.jeff@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Thiede, Kurt <[thiede.kurt@epa.gov](mailto:thiede.kurt@epa.gov)>; Liebau, Joseph <[Liebau.Joseph@epa.gov](mailto:Liebau.Joseph@epa.gov)>; Newton, Cheryl <[Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov](mailto:Newton.Cheryl@epa.gov)>; Sanders, Amy <[Sanders.Amy@epa.gov](mailto:Sanders.Amy@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Chicago Public Radio (WBEZ) seeking comment re: R5's enforcement program + alleged discrimination at R5 / ddl 1:30 pm (Central) on Friday

Please advise. Thanks.

**From:** Jerome McDonnell <[jmcdonnell@wbez.org](mailto:jmcdonnell@wbez.org)>

**Date:** November 5, 2020 at 5:41:40 PM CST

**To:** "Singer, Joshua" <[Singer.Joshua@epa.gov](mailto:Singer.Joshua@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** EPA response

Hi Joshua,

Jerome McDonnell from WBEZ here. I'm doing a short piece with two of the members of American Federation of Government Employees Local 704. I asked them about watching the election results and what they thought of the last four years and what their hopes for the future are.

They raised a couple points I want to get an EPA reaction to.

1. One of the union members talk about how not having enough enforcement officers out there, and not having enough investigators, and not having enough inspectors, will automatically decrease findings. And that will automatically decrease enforcement actions.

Is enforcement suffering because not enough EPA personnel are out there?

2. Also, a point as raised about perceived discrimination in personnel moves. Sited were an instance where the only Latino supervisor at the Office of Regional Council had his position downgraded for no apparent reason. Another instance was the a manager in the water division who was Asian American, and in a reshuffle he was the only manger that didn't end up in another management position.

Is there a discrimination problem at region 5?

I have a 1:30 deadline tomorrow(Friday).

Thanks for your help,  
Jerome McDonnell  
WBEZ  
847 946 2595